



December 9th, 2022

Subject: Notification the installations using the Functional Barrier as per regulation EU 2022/1616.

Dear Madam, dear Sir,

As per our understanding of the regulation EU 2022/1616, on recycled plastic materials and articles intended to come into contact with foods, the manufacturers of materials and articles in which the recycled plastic is used behind a functional barrier need to notify information as per article 10(2) by December 10th, 2022 to the european competent authority and national authorities.

The notification should be done on a dedicated webpage ([link](#)) of the European competent authority. At the time of this writing this webpage is not available. The members of the consortium established by PETCORE Europe and PETSHEET Europe have collected the information and are taking the initiative to submit this information directly without waiting the update of the webpage.

The information attached are:

- Annex 1:
 - The consortium's information
 - the Uniform Resource Locator ('URL') for the reports to be published in accordance with paragraph 4 and Article 13(4),
 - The list of participants to the consortium with name, address, contact persons,
- Annex 2: a summary of the novel technology.

We would welcome confirmation that this is fulfilling our duties as per article 10(2) of EU 2022/1616 Regulation. Please let us know if any more information is needed at the moment and whether an additional submission is to be made once the webpage for the notification of novel technologies is operational.

Best regards,

Raphael Jaumotte

Technical Manager PETCORE Europe

On behalf of the PETCORE Europe/PETSHEET Europe Consortium on Functional Barriers.

Annex 1: Consortium information and list of members of the consortium

PETCORE Europe and PETSHEET Europe have joined forces to create a consortium to support their members applying functional barrier to fulfill their duties as per Article 32 of Regulation EU 2022/1616.

The contact points for the consortium are:

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URL for the reports to be published in accordance with paragraph 4 and Article 13(4):

<https://www.petcore-europe.org/functional-barrier.html>

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Functional barrier has been the first technology used for the manufacturing of products containing PET recycled material.

Technology consists in the generation of a complex structure with at least 3 layers with composition A/B/A, where A layer is made of virgin or recycled PET approved for contact with Food, while B layer is made from recycled PET.

Layer B can be made of

- Hot washed flakes of post-consumer PET coming from at least 95% of food packaging.
- Postindustrial material (pre-consumer) .
- Internal Process scrap.

Depending on equipment provider, different options for the application of the Functional Barrier technology are available, with different methods to provide a mild decontamination:

- Preparation of material for extrusion:
 - o No pre-processing. Feed directly to the Extruder
 - o Crystallizing/Drying. Product submitted to heat to remove moisture, volatile materials and crystallizing the material to avoid product lump creation. This can be made by:
 - Hot air injected on the crystallizer/dryer. Air carries out humidity and volatile substances.
 - Vacuum pump: removes air, humidity, and volatiles substances
- Extrusion of the B layer. Product is molten at high temperature (>275°C) and pressure and extruded in a flat layer:
 - o By Extrusion with degassing. Gases and volatile substances are extracted from the molten material by high efficiency vacuum pumps
 - o No Degassing. Material directly extruded into the B layer.

The material is coextruded into the ABA structure into a sheet with different total and layer thicknesses. The “A” layer will avoid the migration of potential remaining substances of concern to the product in the packaging

Sheet is stored to be thermoformed. Draw thermoforming ratios will depend on depth of final packaging. The deeper the thermoforming is, the thicker “A” layer have to be to prevent migration.